

Mar. 29

SQUIBS FROM WATER FRONT

NEW GILL NETTER HAD GOOD COD CATCH—OTHER HARBOR NEWS.

Congratulations to Capt. Austin Wonson of the gill netter Virginia and Joan for that trip yesterday, when the craft hauled for 7000 pounds of cod, making him the highliner. It looks as if the skipper is maintaining the family traditions of being among the leaders in this industry.

The LaFond brothers have cast their sou'westers in the ring in search of the sacred codfish via the gill nets. Capt. Eugene LaFond was checked by an easterly wind from connecting last Saturday but made good yesterday when he brought his first fare of the season into the harbor aboard the C. A. Meister, the catch weighing 2500 pounds.

His brother, Capt. William LaFond, intends to make his opening set either today or tomorrow in the Eliza Riggs, and will have with him his two sons, Randolph and Ellswood.

Speaking of birthdays, skippers are reminded that the Master Mariners' Association came into existence just 45 years ago Friday, when Capt. James T. Simpson, John P. Aiken, George H. Martin, William M. Gaffney, Henry B. Thomas and John A. McKinnon, were sworn in by Justice of the Peace Edgar S. Taft, as organizers and founders of the association. The first meeting was held in the Ferguson block where their rooms were located on April 9, Henry B. Thomas was elected the first president. The membership numbered 137, and as one skipper remarked "there's many a stormy voyage been sailed in the rooms since that time." Capt. McKinnon, who is a past president of the association is the only survivor of the board of founders.

Henry Oakes who builds dwellings, has gone into repairing boats, and up in Little river, West Gloucester, has been giving the trawler Jupiter, a new pilot house. Richard Marsh will command the craft which should be ready within the next two weeks, when she will be added to the fleet landing their fares at Hall & Murray's.

The Superior will have a cook soon, in fact just as soon as Esmond C. Thomas of this city can arrive at Cape May and join Capt. John Dahlmer's boys. Evidently the fishermen want some New England dishes while in the swim. Capt. Dahlmer hauled for 50 barrels of mixed fish one day last week, which is said to be a good trip.

The invigorating smell of tar, is very evident along the waterfront these days when the lofts are getting the seines and nets in condition for the southern struggle next month. Alex Chisholm's is one of the busy centers, and it will not be long before the boats call for the mackerel nooses and turn their prows toward the warmer regions along the Virginia shores.

From the shore about noon yesterday, an excellent marine picture might be glimpsed as a rugged four-master sailed by the mouth of the harbor, all sails set with the exception of the jib topsail. It looked as if the canvas had caught the breeze, and was sending the craft forward with a vim. Such sights are becoming rarer with the days.

LOCAL RECEIPTS NEARLY 70,000

FLEET OF GILL NETTERS AND TRAWLERS HAD GOOD FISH- ING YESTERDAY.

Nearly 70,000 pounds of fresh fish have been landed here since yesterday by 13 gill netter, 12 trawlers and six draggers, with the gill netter Virginia and Joan, Capt. Austin Wonson, leading the list, his fare being 7000 pounds, which went to the Mac-Donald Fish Corporation.

The gill netters accounted for 29,500 pounds of the total, while the trawlers had 25,200 pounds. From Boston, came the William L. Putnam and the Laura Goulart, with 45,000 and 40,000 large cod respectively, for the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company.

Gloucester Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail:
William L. Putnam, via Boston, 45,000 lbs. large cod.

Laura Goulart, via Boston, with 40,000 lbs. large cod.

Natalie II., dragging, 3000 lbs. cod.
Plymouth Rock, trawling, 4700 lbs. haddock.

Cora Jane, trawling, 3600 lbs. cod.
Joe Mitchell, trawling, 1200 lbs. cod.

Gus Mitchell, trawling, 700 lbs. cod.
Sally Joseph, trawling, 1000 lbs. cod.

Florence and John, trawling, 1300 lbs. cod.

Mariner, dragging, 1000 lbs. flounders.

Gilbert, dragging, 1000 lbs. flounders.

Gertrude E., trawling, 1000 lbs. mixed fish.

Bethulia, dragging, 3000 lbs. mixed fish, mostly haddock.

Maria Concetta, trawling, 3000 lbs. mixed fish, mostly haddock.

C4158, trawling, 4000 lbs. mixed fish.

Margaret D., dragging, 3000 lbs. mixed fish.

Carlo and Vence, dragging, 3000 lbs. mixed fish.

Nephthys, trawling, 3200 lbs. mixed fish, mostly haddock.

C2146, trawling, 1000 lbs. mixed fish, mostly haddock.

C4261, trawling, 500 lbs. cod.

Yesterday's Gill Net Receipts.

Virginia and Joan, 7000 lbs. cod.

Lucretia, 2100 lbs. cod.

Elizabeth and James, 700 lbs. cod, 500 lbs. haddock.

Enterprise, 2500 lbs. cod.

Phyllis A., 3000 lbs. cod.

Myrtle and Gladys, 500 lbs. cod.

Agnes and Myrnie, 2000 lbs. cod.

C. A. Meister, 1900 lbs. cod, 600 lbs. haddock.

Edna Fae, 3000 lbs. cod.

Nashawena, 1500 lbs. cod.

Liboria C. 1500 lbs. cod.

Alicia, 1500 lbs. cod.

Mary A., 1200 lbs. cod.

On the Railways.

At Parkhurst's railways is the Three Sisters, painting and machinery repairs; and Newcastle for general overhauling, preparation for netting.

At Burnham's railways are the Orion and Thelma for general overhauling, the former for netting, and latter for seining.

The 75-footer C.G. 174 is on Rocky Neck railways for painting.

Sailed.

Imperator, haddocking.
William L. Putnam, haddocking.

ONE HALIBUTER ARRIVED TODAY

ORETHA SPINNEY HAS 28,000 LBS. —LARGE RECEIPTS OF GROUND FISH.

Receipts at the Boston Fish Pier were not as heavy as on the first two days of the week. A fleet of 16 vessels was on hand at the opening with 580,000 pounds of groundfish and 117,000 pounds of mixed fish. The heavy supply kept prices at a low level, particularly codfish which sold only for \$1.50 to \$2. Haddock brought \$2.35 to \$3.50.

Sch. Oretha F. Spinney was among the arrivals, bringing a fare of 28,000 pounds of halibut. It sold for 14 cents per pound for white and 10 cents per pound for gray and chicken.

Boston Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and fares in detail:
Str. Cornell, 56,000 haddock, 52,000 cod, 23,000 mixed fish.

Str. William J. O'Brien, 56,000 haddock, 14,000 cod, 28,000 mixed fish.

Str. Wild Goose, 30,000 haddock, 118,000 cod, 2000 mixed fish.

Str. Boston College, 48,000 haddock, 25,000 cod, 12,000 scrod.

Str. Ocean, 90,000 haddock, 27,000 cod, 26,000 mixed fish.

Donald, 40,000 haddock, 11,000 cod, 13,000 mixed fish.

Fiore and Marino, 3400 mixed fish.

Rosie C., 2500 mixed fish.

Mary and Jennie, 3100 mixed fish.

Roma, 2500 mixed fish.

Annie, 3400 mixed fish.

St. Peter, 2200 mixed fish.

La Paloma, 1900 mixed fish.

Carmella Maria, 4500 mixed fish.

St. Joseph, 1500 mixed fish.

Oretha F. Spinney, 28,000 halibut.

Haddock, \$2.35 to \$3.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$1.50 to \$2; market cod, \$1.50 to \$2; hake, \$2 to \$4; pollock, \$1.50 to \$1.60; cusk, \$1.50 to \$2; gray sole, 4 cents per pound; black backs, 4 cents; yellow tails, 2 cents; dabs, 11-2 cents; spawn, 5 cents; sharks, 8 cents; catfish, 1 1-2 cents; halibut, 14 cents per pound for white, 10 cents per pound for gray and chicken.

Opens April 10.

The lobster fishing season from Cole Harbor, Halifax County, to Cape Argos, Guysboro county, opens this season on April 10 at 6 a. m., instead of the usual date April 20.

Large Catches.

Two trawlers arrived in Halifax over the week-end from the banks with large fares of fish. The Lemberg brought 200,000 pounds in Saturday and the St. Cuthbert followed with another 200,000 pounds. Both vessels docked at the National Fish Company's wharf.

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FISH INTERESTS ASK COUNCIL TO ASSIST

TWO WELL-KNOWN SKIPPERS GONE TO IRELAND

Capt. Roger Conrad and Capt. George Himmelman of Lunenburg, N. S., and well-known in local waterfront circles, have sailed from Halifax on the *Silvia* for Greenland, where they will take command of two fishing boats there. Capt. Himmelman's two sons, Murray and Wilson, went with them.

Portland Fish News.

All but two vessels of the Portland fishing fleet and a dozen Boston and Gloucester draggers went to the grounds Tuesday morning and are expected back by this morning with another good catch. The two remaining in Portland are the *Richard J. Nunan*, which is completing the installation of a new engine, and the *Fannie Belle*.

Preparing for Season.

As the lobster season opens April 10 instead of the 20th, the fishermen at Drum Head, N. S., are busy setting their traps in readiness. There will be 2000 traps set out from this place. Some of the fishermen report damage to their trap headings and buoy lines by rats. It will be some time before they can be made ready for use.

Trade Is Down.

Exports through the port of St. John, N. B., during the calendar year 1932 were 20 per cent below those of the previous year, while imports were down about 10 per cent. The harbor report comments that the decrease of exports was largely due to falling off of the grain trade but adds that this trade gave indication of a considerable increase in 1933.

Shock Fatal.

Sch. *Leah Beryl*, Capt. Zinck, arrived at Lunenburg Saturday morning with her flag at half mast on account of the loss of a member of her crew, Basil Conrad through a tragic accident.

The vessel left Lunenburg on Wednesday morning on a frozen baiting trip for the Western banks. On Thursday morning about 6.30, the unfortunate man, with other members of the crew, was standing on deck. There was very little wind at the time, and the sails were flapping back and forth and the foresail caught Conrad and hurled him about 40 feet from the vessel.

A dory was immediately launched for his rescue but as soon as his comrades got him in the boat he passed away. He was a strong swimmer and had his rubber boots kicked off and was swimming toward the vessel. Coroner Dr. R. McK. Saunders, who was called and who deemed an inquest unnecessary, pronounced death due from shock. Deceased was 34 years of age, unmarried, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Conrad, Cherry Hill.

Blocked by Ice.

Ice was still too tightly packed about the northern Newfoundland coastline to get a boat away to the rescue of 12 sealers marooned on Western Island, in the month of White Bay. They were, however, believed to be comparatively comfortable.

Seek Appropriation To Carry Case to Washington To Obtain Federal Aid for City's Chief Industry

A committee representing the producers of the fishing industry appeared before the Municipal Council this forenoon, seeking an appropriation for a program to be undertaken for assistance from the Federal government. The amount is \$1500 and while the matter was taken under advisement today there is some likelihood that there may be a favorable decision when complete plans are formulated for presenting the case of the fishermen to the proper authorities at Washington.

Capt. Ben Pine, Nathan B. MacLoud, Everett R. Jodrey, Lawrence C. McEwen, Capt. William Nickerson, Capt. Henry Curtis led a delegation that filled the council chamber to capacity. It was stated that oth-

er leaders in the industry were in complete accord with this effort of the producers to secure Federal relief.

Fishermen Should Be Included.

Speakers pointed out that the Federal government had aided railroads, farmers, the banking and other industries and there was no reason why Federal aid should not be given the oldest and a basic industry, the producing of fish. They felt that fishermen should be included with farmers as producers.

It was also pointed out that a farmer with a \$70,000 farm could mortgage it if necessary, but this wasn't so with the skipper or individual with a \$70,000 vessel. The man with the vessel cannot raise money by a mortgage through customary channels.

That some effort should be made to establish a minimum price was also stressed during the hearing.

N. F. Lobster Market.

Lobsters—According to the Newfoundland Gazette issued last Tuesday, the license fee for lobster packers has been reduced from \$5 to \$2 per annum. The price of the embossing machines, however, remain the same.

The Maritime Merchant comments on the general situation as follows: "The Newfoundland government is making an effort to provide some new regulations for its lobster fishery. The supply there has dwindled to such small proportions that it may become necessary to prohibit fishing again for a few years. Reports are current that the Canadian Department of Fisheries will rescind the size limit restriction for a portion of the western coast of N.S. American and European countries since the beginning of the year in fairly large quantities.

A reduction made in the English prices to retailers seems to have brought satisfactory results. A slight advance in the value of the pound sterling has helped the situation too, while the high premium on American funds enables lobsters to be landed cheaply in U. S. markets. If the surpluses carried over from 1932 can be consumed during the present Lenten season the outlook for the coming season will materially improve. The exchange situation is its chief bugbear and the tariff revisions now said to be getting attention in France, Germany and other continental countries need to be carefully watched also. The packing seasons will be over before the International Trade Conference can bring results and a return to normal conditions for the lobster industry is not yet in sight. The uttermost caution will need to be exercised by fishermen and cannery for their coming season's operations."—St. John's N. F. Herald and Trade Review.

The U. S. Coast Guard *Dix*, one of the 125-footers, made port Monday afternoon, and tied up at the Frank F. Smith wharf. The *Dix* is attached to Base 5, of Boston, and is here awaiting orders. She is in command of Boatswain Christie T. Christiansen, who hails from Brooklyn, N. Y. Second in command is Executive Officer William Paulsen, and her complement is 17 enlisted men. The crew is occupied with cleaning and scrubbing the ship and span ship, ready to meet the inspection of any superior.

Some call it "hospital dock", others suggest it might be the "Sargossa Sea" of Cape Ann, but the locality in the rear of the Olympia theatre and adjacent to the sail loft pier, harbors a few tumble-down deserted hulks that have outlived their usefulness evidently and have been sacrificed to the torments of the elements. There's the old *Mary Fallon*, once a seiner, and Capt. Jim Ellis' command, the timbers holding a farewell party with each other before they call it quits and "abandon ship". Then the *Claudia*, who in her palmy days, was a "whaler" out of New Bedford, and even engaged in the handling fishery—just a forlorn memory. Not to forget the ancient sub-chaser of the World war vintage, which was obtained by an Italian fisherman because he had to buy it with one he really wanted, or it would have been "no sale", so they say, and last but not least, is the bulk of an olden lighter, similar to the famous *Philip*. They're all there, bowing humbly to their tragic destiny, awaiting that final storm that will rend them from stem to stern, and crumble them into driftwood.